DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEWED BY _____ /CDC/MR
DATE _____
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☐
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA/HO EXEMPTIONS
2039

SPONSOR: Rep. Harrington

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

130TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4 - JAN 16 1979

MEMORIALIZING AND URGING EACH MEMBER OF THE DELAWARE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT, ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE, TO INSURE THAT THE UNCLAIMED BODIES OF MEMBERS OF THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE ARE NOT BURIED WITHIN THE STATE OF DELAWARE BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

WHEREAS, the bodies of over nine hundred victims of the tragic Guyana murder-suicide massacre were removed from Jonestown last December by the Federal government and flown to Delaware for temporary storage while victims were being identified and relatives notified prior to "disposition"; and

WHEREAS, since that time claims have been made that, although some bodies have been cremated in New Jersey, the original decision was that the unclaimed bodies would be buried throughout the State of Delaware in private cemeteries at Federal expense; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Delaware have over the past several weeks been expressing their strong concerns that Delaware not be the focal point for burial of the Jonestown victims; and

WHEREAS, many Delawareans, including the Governor, have written and sent telegrams to President Carter, expressing their concerns. Various State and Federal legislators have requested that the unclaimed bodies of the Jonestown victims not remain in Delaware, but be returned to California; and

WHEREAS, it has been nearly a month after the last body was placed in storage at Dover Air Force Base, and the Federal government has refused to respond to those elected officials, from Delaware and across the Nation, who

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ave voiced their concerns. A few bodies have been removed, but it is clear hat the great majority will not be claimed; and

WHEREAS, each member of the Delaware Congressional delegation, because of is high Federal office and because of various contacts in the Federal govern-ent, is ideally situated to express the concerns of the citizens of the State f Delaware.

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the 130th General Assembly of the State of Delaware, with the approval of the Governor, that each member of the Delaware Congressional delegation is requested to use his "good offices" to ensure that the bodies of members of the People's Temple are not buried within the State of Delaware by the Federal government.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Senator William V. Roth, Jr., Senator Joseph R. Biden, Jr., and Representative Thomas B. Evans, Jr., at their offices in Washington, D.C.; Charles LeGates, Mayor of the City of Dover; and the following United States State Department officials:

Hon. Barbara M. Watson,
Assistant Secretary for Consular Affairs

Mr. Lee Marks,
Deputy Legal Advisor

Mr. Allen Gise,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Consular Affairs

Mr. John A. Bushnell,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Inter-American Affairs

Mr. Edward V. Nef,
Congressional Relations

Mr. Hume Horan,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Consular Affairs

Mr. Peter F. Murphy,
Special Assistant, Bureau of Consular Affairs

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Miss Catherine Gerardi,
Staff Assistant, Bureau of Consular Affairs

Miss Mary Ann Yoden,
Public Affairs Officer, Bureau of Consular Affairs

Mr. Ira Wolf,
Special Assistant, Office of the Counselor

Mr. David Epstein,
Department of Justice

Mr. Brent Rushforth,
Department of Defense

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SPONSOR: Rep. Harrington

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

130TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE AMENDMENT NO. 1 JAN 17 1979

TO

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4

AMEND House Joint Resolution No. 4 by striking lines 35 and 36 of page 2, and substituting in lieu thereof the following:

"Mayor of the City of Dover; and the following Federal officials:"

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